Backlog of SC/ST Quota

172. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the backlog of vacancies as on April 1991, 1992 and 1993 and so far in 1994 in the Ministry of Textiles, its departments and the textile mills still to be filled in so far from among ST/SC Candidates as per the prescribed norms class-wise;

(b) what special steps were taken to fill the backlog and the steps taken and being taken this year; and

(c) what is the target fixed for this year in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) and (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Welfare Scheme for Handloom Workers

173. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have proposed a scheme for the welfare of handloom workers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this scheme is applicable both in urban and rural areas;

(d) what is the stage of consideration/implementation thereof; and

(e) the number of beneficiaries identified in Andhra Pradesh under this scheme, alongwith the district-wise details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government of India is implementing the following schemes for the welfare of Handloom Weavers;

1. Workshed-cum-Housing Scheme;
2. Group Insurance Scheme;
3. Thrift Fund Scheme;
4. Health Package Scheme.

(c) All the welfare schemes are applicable both in Urban and Rural areas.

(d) Workshed-cum-Housing Scheme & Thrift Fund Scheme are under implementation from VII plan. They have been modified from 1991-92. The Group Insurance Scheme and Health Package Scheme have been introduced from 1992-93.

(e) The number of beneficiaries identified in Andhra Pradesh during 1993-94 is as follows:

	No. of beneficiaries identified
1. Workshed-cum-Housing	1000
2. Thrift Fund Scheme	26725
3. Group Insurance Scheme	28000
4. Health Package Scheme	9550

District-wise details are maintained at the State level. Government of India releases money to the State Government on the basis of proposals received from the State as a whole.

Impact of Phasing out of Janata Cloth Scheme on the Weavers

174. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to refer to the reply given to U.Q.No. 426 on 25th November, 1992 and state:

(a) the number of weavers in the country displaced as a result of phasing out of production of Janata Cloth and the number of these who were graduated to higher value products;

(b) whether the new scheme has proved beneficial to these weavers, if so, to what extent; and

(c) whether Government have explored the marketing and export of these higher value products, if so, details thereof?